

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

CAB-05 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00 /092 R

DRAFTED BY: AF/C:TFKILLORAN:JDP

APPROVED BY: AF:EMULCAHY

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O R 161718Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBERG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

UNCLAS STATE 037655

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, AO, US

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF AMERICAN CREW AND AIRCRAFT

REF: STATE 34135

1. EMPLOYER AND FAMILY OF COPILOT INSIST THAT ALLEGHENY FH-227B NOW BEING HELD IN ANGOLA BY MPLA WAS FORCED DOWN BY MIG PLANES. THEY BASE THEIR BELIEF ON REUTERS DISPATCHES THAT CITE SOUTHWEST AIRLINES AS SOURCE. ACCORDING TO REUTERS, SOUTHWEST PERSONNEL ON FEBRUARY 9 HEARD PILOT ROGER CARLEY REPORT THAT HE WAS BEING FORCIBLY ESCORTED TO AN UNKNOWN DESTINATION.

2. EMPLOYER ALSO INSISTS THAT PLANE MADE REFUELING STOP AT SAO TOME, DESPITE FAA INSISTANCE IT DID NOT.

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3. THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE CREW ARE DISTRAUGHT AND

BELIEVE THAT THE PLANE WAS FORCED DOWN OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS. THIS BEING THE CASE, THE REASON, WHY HAS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT NOT TAKEN SOME STERN MEASURES TO OBTAIN THE SWIFT RELEASE OF THE CREW, UNLESS THERE EXIST OVER-RIDING NATIONAL SECURITY REASONS, I.E., A SECRET OPERATION OR A SECRET DEAL WITH THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT.

4. IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM, THE DEPARTMENTS NEEDS TO FIND OUT IF, IN FACT, THE PILOT DID SEND A MESSAGE REPORTING THAT HE WAS INTERCEPTED BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT.

5. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF ADDRESSEES WOULD IMMEDIATELY GET IN TOUCH WITH SOUTHWEST AIRLINES OR ITS PARENT COMPANY SOUTH AFRICAN MARINE, TO DETERMINE THE ACCURACY OF THE REUTERS REPORTS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT REUTERS CORRESPONDENT TIM HOLLAND IN JOHANNESBERG FILED THE STORY.

6. ADDRESSEES SHOULD ALSO INVESTIGATE REPORT AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT MIGHT HELP US DETERMINE THE FACTS IN THIS CASE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/C:TFKILLORAN:JDP
Enclosure: n/a
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Film Number: D760058-0445
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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Subject: DETENTION OF AMERICAN CREW AND AIRCRAFT
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, ASIG, AO, US, SF, MPLA, ALLEGHENY AIRLINES, (CARLEY, ROGER)
To: PRETORIA
CAPE TOWN
Type: TE
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